

Claims

What is claimed is:

1.. An apparatus for the graphical display of room information, said apparatus comprising:

5 a display; and

an arrangement for producing a cell for being viewed on said display, said cell conveying information regarding a room.

2. The apparatus according to Claim 1, further comprising:

10 an arrangement for producing a matrix for being displayed on said display, said

matrix being adapted to depict the rooms for which information is conveyed; and

said arrangement for producing a cell comprising an arrangement for producing a plurality of cells in conjunction with said matrix, wherein each cell corresponds to a different one of the rooms for which information is conveyed.

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3. The apparatus according to Claim 2, wherein:

 said cell is adapted to display secondary information associated with each attribute
 of the cell.

5 4. The apparatus according to Claim 3, wherein the secondary information is
 displayed solely to authorized users of the apparatus.

5. The apparatus according to Claim 3, wherein said cell is adapted to modify an
attribute upon a prompt from an authorized user of the apparatus.

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6. The apparatus according to Claim 3, wherein the room is a hospital room.

7. The apparatus according to Claim 3, wherein the room is a hotel room.

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8. The apparatus according to Claim 3, wherein the cell depicts a bed.
9. The apparatus according to Claim 3, wherein the cell indicates whether the room is unoccupied.
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10. The apparatus according to Claim 3, wherein the cell indicates whether the room is occupied.
11. The apparatus according to Claim 3, wherein the cell indicates whether the
10 room is in a stat condition.
12. The apparatus according to Claim 3, wherein said cell indicates whether a bed
within the room is being made.

13. An apparatus for the graphical display of room information, said apparatus comprising:

a display;

an arrangement for producing a cell for being viewed on said display, said cell

5 having a plurality of modifiable attributes; and

a controller which modifies at least one of the attributes of said cell in conveying information about the current status of a room.

14. The apparatus according to Claim 14, further comprising:

10 an arrangement for producing a matrix for being displayed on said display, said matrix being adapted to depict the rooms for which information is conveyed; and

said arrangement for producing a cell comprising an arrangement for producing a plurality of cells in conjunction with said matrix, wherein each cell corresponds to a different one of the rooms for which information is conveyed.

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15. The apparatus according to Claim 15, wherein:

said cell is adapted to display secondary information associated with each attribute of the icon.

5 16. The apparatus according to Claim 16, wherein the secondary information is displayed solely to authorized users of the apparatus.

17. The apparatus according to Claim 16, wherein said controller is adapted to modify an attribute upon a prompt from an authorized user of the apparatus.

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18. The apparatus according to Claim 16, wherein the room is a hospital room.

19. The apparatus according to Claim 16, wherein the room is a hotel room.

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20. The apparatus according to Claim 16, wherein the cell depicts a bed.
21. The apparatus according to Claim 16, wherein the cell indicates whether the room is unoccupied.
22. The apparatus according to Claim 16, wherein the cell indicates whether the room is occupied.
23. The apparatus according to Claim 16, wherein the cell indicates whether the room is in a stat condition.
- 10 24. The apparatus according to Claim 16, wherein said cell indicates whether a bed within the room is being made.

25. A method of graphically displaying room information, said method comprising the steps of:

displaying a matrix;

displaying at least one cell within the matrix, each cell corresponding to a room

5 and having a plurality of modifiable attributes; and

modifying at least one of the attributes of the cell in conveying information about the current status of the room.

26. The method according to Claim 26, wherein:

10 at least one cell is adapted to display secondary information associated with at least one attribute of the cell.

27. The method according to Claim 27, wherein the display of said secondary information is restricted

28. The method according to Claim 28, wherein the secondary information is displayed solely to authorized users.

29. The method according to Claim 29, wherein the authorization of a user is
5 determined by comparing a password provided by the user against a databank of
passwords.

30. The method according to Claim 27, wherein the room is a hospital room.

10 31. The method according to Claim 27, wherein the room is a hotel room.

32. The method according to Claim 27, wherein the cell depicts a bed.

15 33. The method according to Claim 27, wherein the cell indicates whether the
room is unoccupied.

34. The method according to Claim 27, wherein the cell indicates whether the room is occupied.

5 35. The method according to Claim 27, wherein the cell indicates whether the room is in stat condition.

36. The method according to Claim 27, wherein said cell indicates whether a bed within the room is being made.

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37. A program storage device readable by machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform method steps for the graphical display of room information, said method comprising the steps of:

displaying a matrix;

displaying at least one cell within the matrix, each cell corresponding to a room
and having a plurality of modifiable attributes; and

modifying at least one of the attributes of the cell in conveying information about
the current status of the room.

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